

Message Text

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ACTION FBO-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 A-01 M-02 ST-01 ABF-01 /021 W

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R 220518Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6233

UNCLAS MANILA 10044

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: AFSP, ABLD, RP

SUBJ: REPORT OF FIRE LOSSES, WAREHOUSE BLDG. 38, SEAFRONT

COMPOUND, PROPERTY NO. 02314-D

REF: MANILA 9692; 6 FAM 227.2

EMBASSY HAS FURTHER EVALUATED LOSSES RESULTING FROM FIRE
REPORTED IN REFTEL.

PERSONAL PROPERTY LOSSES:

1. NON-EXPENDABLE PROPERTY:

CATEGORY A - OFFICE FURNITURE, FURNISHINGS & EQUIPMENT (S&E)

FURNITURE & FURNISHINGS \$31,246

OFFICE MACHINES & EQUIPMENT \$15,603

CATEGORY B - RESIDENTIAL FURNITURE, FURNISHINGS AND EQUIPMENT

S&E FBO

FURNITURE & FURNISHINGS \$50,049 \$8,300

APPLIANCES \$34,591 \$11,186

CATEGORY E - OTHERS (INCLUDING FORKLIFT, TRUCK DOLLY,
TRANSFORMERS, LAWNMOWERS AND AUTOMOTIVE-MAINTENANCE
EQUIPMENT) \$16,970

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2. EXPENDABLE PROPERTY: (INCLUDING AIR-CONDITIONING COMPRESSORS

AND FAN MOTORS, TIRES AND RIMS, ARRIVAL KITS, UNIFORMS,
ETC.) \$11,874

GRAND TOTAL \$179,819

COMMENT:

INVENTORIES OF NON-EXPENDABLE PROPERTY CATEGORIES A AND B
ARE BELIEVED HIGHLY ACCURATE. DOLLAR VALUE REPRESENTS CURRENT
REPLACEMENT COSTS WITH EXCEPTION OF CERTAIN FURNITURE AND
EQUIPMENT ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR DISPOSAL.

WAREHOUSE INVENTORIES OF HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, FURNISHINGS AND
APPLIANCES WERE UNFORTUNATELY HIGHER THAN NORMAL DUE:

1. RECENT DELIVERIES OF SOME JUNE PURCHASES;
2. CURRENT HIGHER SEASONAL TURNOVER OF BOTH PERSONNEL AND
LEASED HOUSES.

ALTHOUGH EMBASSY HAS ACHIEVED A REASONABLY ACCURATE COMPILA-
TION OF CATEGORY E ITEMS LOST IN FIRE, REPLACEMENT VALUE
FIGURES ARE LESS RELIABLE. IN REGARD AUTO REPAIR EQUIPMENT
APPROACH SHOULD BE TO ACQUIRE WHAT IS NEEDED TO MEET AUTO
MAINTENANCE TASK RATHER THAN REPLACEMENT OF THAT WHICH WAS
LOST, LATTER BEING, IN PART, INADEQUATE, OBSOLETE, OR
INEFFICIENT. STUDY IN THIS DIRECTION NOW BEING CONDUCTED
ON URGENT BASIS DUE SECURITY REQUIREMENTS ATTENDANT TO WORK
ON VEHICLES OF AMBASSADOR AND DCM. THIS WILL BE SUBJECT OF
SEPARATE REPORT. AUTO REPAIR HAND TOOLS AS WELL AS SPARE
PARTS, TIRES, ETC., BELIEVED PROPERLY INCLUDED IN "EXPENDABLE"
CATEGORY.

REAL PROPERTY LOSSES

1. BUILDING WAREHOUSES #38, PROP. NO. 02314-D, WAS A WWI
QUONSET TYPE STRUCTURE ON CONCRETE BASE WITH WOODEN MEZZANINE
FLOOR. PORTION OF BUILDING WAS AIR-CONDITIONED, A NECESSITY
FOR STORAGE SOFT FURNITURE, OFFICE MACHINES, ETC. BUILDING
PROVIDED 15,000 SQ. FT. OF USABLE SPACE, HOWEVER, LONG NARROW
CONFIGURATION RENDERED IT LESS THAN IDEAL FOR USE AS WARE-
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HOUSE. TWO ADDITIONAL WAREHOUSE QUONSETS 17 AND 17-A, PROP.
NO. 02314-C, REMAIN IN SEAFRONT AS POSSIBLE TEMPORARY ALTER-
NATIVES. BOTH HAVE OPEN WIRE SCREEN SIDES AND PRESENTLY STORE
BULK MAINTENANCE SUPPLIES, OTHER AGENCY EQUIPMENT, AND
DISPOSAL PROPERTY. NEITHER BUILDING WELL SUITED AS WAREHOUSE
DUE CONFIGURATION AND PROXIMITY USEA COMMISSARY AND GASOLINE
PUMP. IF LESSON OF BUILDING #38 FIRE IS TO BE HEEDDED, THESE
BUILDINGS SHOULD BE DEMOLISHED .

2. REQUIREMENT NOW EXISTS FOR EMBASSY WAREHOUSE OF APPROX. 18,000 SQ. FT. INCLUDING CONTIGUOUS OFFICE SPACE FOR GSO SUPPLY AND PROPERTY CONTROL UNIT. BUILDING WOULD COMBINE ALL STATE-OWNED EXPENDABLE AND NON-EXPENDABLE PROPERTY. FORMER PRESENTLY STORED IN CHANCERY COMPOUND. MAINTENANCE SUPPLIES ALSO WIDELY DISPERSED. WITH PROPER BUILDING ALL RECEIPT STORAGE AND ISSUE FUNCTIONS WOULD BE UNDER CLOSER SUPERVISION AND SURVEILLANCE OF PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING OFFICER. INITIAL INQUIRIES OF COST TO BUILD SIMPLE STRUCTURE OF CONCRETE OR CINDER BLOCK WITH GI ROOF HAVE YIELDED WIDELY VARYING ESTIMATES FROM DOLLARS 150,000 TO 500,000. BY JUDICIOUS CURTAILMENT AND SIMPLIFICATION OF SPECIFICATIONS, POST BELIEVES ADEQUATE BUILDING COULD BE ERECTED FOR APPROXIMATELY DOLLARS 125,000 TO 150,000. SATISFACTORY LEASED WAREHOUSE SPACE VIRTUALLY UNOBTAINABLE AT REASONABLE COST.

3. IN MEANTIME EMBASSY EXPLORING POSSIBILITY OF OBTAINING "BUTLER" TYPE BUILDINGS FROM AIR FORCE, CLARK FIELD, NAVY, SUBIC BAY OR THIRD COUNTRY.

ACTION REQUESTED

1. BUREAU AND FBO PROVIDE EMERGENCY FUNDS FOR REPLACEMENT ALL OR SUBSTANTIAL PORTION OF LOSSES CATEGORY A & B AND EXPENDABLES.

2. BUREAU INVESTIGATE POSSIBILITY UTILIZATION "TERRORIST PACKAGE" APPROPRIATION FOR REPLACEMENT VEHICLE MAINTENANCE FACILITY.

3. FBO INCLUDE IN ITS PLANNING POST REQUIREMENT FOR SATISFACTORY WAREHOUSE FACILITY. IN EVENT EMBASSY SUCCESSFUL IN LOCATING "BUTLER" BUILDING, FBO WILL BE REQUESTED TO

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FUND ACQUISITION, TRANSPORTATION AND ASSEMBLY. SULLIVAN

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